

REMARKS

Prosecution is reopened pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §41.50(b) based on new grounds of rejection by the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences.

Claims 16-27 are pending in this application.

In the Decision on Appeal, the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences (the Board) sustained the rejections of Claims 16-20 and 27, entered new grounds for rejection for Claim 21, and reversed the rejection of Claims 22-26.

Thus, in accordance with the Decision, the status of the claims is as follows: Claim 21 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being anticipated by John (U.S. Patent No. 6,216,106) in view of Itoh et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,280,521), and further in view of Choksi et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,477,243); Claims 16-19 and 27 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over John in view of Itoh, and further in view of Choksi et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,477,243); Claim 20 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over John in view of Itoh, further in view of Choksi and DeGiorgio et al. (U.S. Patent No. 3,866,206); and, Claims 22-26 currently stand unrejected.

Please amend Claims 16 and 21 as set forth herein. No new matter has been added.

Claims 16 and 21 have been amended to recite, in part, transmitting, from the called mobile station, a confirmation message directly to the calling mobile station. This process is described in the Specification at pages 4-12. In addition, Applicants agree with the Board (see Decision at page 11) and respectfully submit that the cited references do not teach or disclose transmitting, from the called mobile station, a confirmation message directly to the calling mobile station.

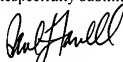
Based on at least the foregoing withdrawal of the rejections of Claims 16 and 21 under

§103(a) are respectfully requested.

Independent Claims 16 and 21 are believed to be in condition for allowance. Without conceding the patentability per se of dependent Claims 17-20 and 22-27 these are likewise believed to be allowable by virtue of their dependence on their respective amended independent claims. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections of dependent Claims 17-20 and 22-27 is respectfully requested.

Accordingly, all of the claims pending in the Application, namely, Claims 16-27, are believed to be in condition for allowance. Should the Examiner believe that a telephone conference or personal interview would facilitate resolution of any remaining matters, the Examiner may contact Applicants' attorney at the number given below.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Paul J. Farrell", is written over the typed name.

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